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Message Text

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56
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

SP-02 PM-03 PRS-01 EUR-08 DHA-02 IO-06 SCA-01 /052 W
---------- 123100
P 281708Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8233
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 10612

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PINR CG AO CU BE
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE GIZENGA VISIT TO BRUSSELS

1. A MR. NZAMBA VALERE, ZAIRIAN WHO RESIDES IN BRUSSELS AND WHO HAD ONCE PREVIOUSLY WALKED INTO EMBASSY AND REQUESTED TO SEE A POLITICAL OFFICER, CAME IN AGAIN OCTOBER 26 AND WAS RECEIVED BY MIDDLE-LEVEL POLITICAL OFFICER. NZAMBA GAVE US A CRITIQUE OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE AND ITS POLICIES - BOTH BAD - AND EXPLAINED HOW U.S. POLICY TOWARDS ZAIRE WAS IN ERROR. NZAMBA THEN SAID THAT ANTOINE GIZENGA, PRESENTLY IN SWITZERLAND, WOULD BE IN BRUSSELS NOVEMBER 2-3 AND HOPED TO MEET THE AMBASSADOR TO SET OUT HIS VIEWS ON CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ZAIRE. WE SAID THAT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE, NOR WOULD ANY OTHER EMBASSY OFFICER BE AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH GIZENGA. NZAMBA DID NOT PRESS THE MATTER BUT LEFT THE IMPRESSION WE MAY NOT HAVE HEARD THE LAST OF IT.

2. NZAMBA TOLD US THAT HE AND GIZENGA BELONG TO AN ORGANIZATION CALLED FODELICO (FORCES DEMOCRATIQUES POUR LA LIBERATION DE CONGO-KINSHASA) WHICH WAS HEADQUARTERED AT A PLACE CALLED HERVA BORA IN EASTERN ZAIRE ALONG LAKE TANGANYIKA. HE SAID THAT FODELICO WAS BOTH AN OVERSEAS "COMMON FRONT OF SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS" AS WELL
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AS THE FOREIGN POLITICAL ARM OF THE ZAIRIAN POLITICAL

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PARTY, THE PRP (PARTI DE LA REVOLUTION POPULAIRE) LED
BY LAURENT KABILA. HE SAID THAT GIZENGA WAS THE POLITICAL
LEADER OF FODELICO AND HE, NZAMBA, WAS IN CHARGE OF FOREIGN
RELATIONS.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY'S
ZAIRIAN DESK OFFICER (JAENEN) WE DESCRIBED NZAMBA'S APPROACH
AND ASKED WHETHER GIZENGA COULD LEGALLY ENTER BELGIUM.
JAENEN SAID THAT GIZENGA LAST ASKED FOR A VISA IN 1974.
THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT FEARED GIZENGA WOULD ENTER AND
THEN ASK BELGIAN GOVERNMENT FOR PERMISSION TO RESIDE
IN BELGIUM AND PERHAPS SEEK TO OBTAIN RECOGNITION AS A POLITICAL
REFUGEE FROM UNITED NATIONS REFUGEE COMMISSIONER HERE.
GIZENGA WAS REFUSED A VISA BUT JAENEN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT
HE HAS SINCE BEEN IN BRUSSELS ILLEGALLY SEVERAL TIMES AND
MET WITH BELGIAN OPPOSITION POLITICIANS. JAENEN SAID IF
GIZENGA WERE FOUND IN BELGIUM, HE WOULD BE DEPORTED; IF HE
HAD BROKEN THE LAW, HE MIGHT BE PROSECUTED.

4. COMMENT: WE LEFT NZAMBA IN NO DOUBT THAT U.S.
ENJOYS GOOD RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE AND
WILL NOT ENTER INTO ANY KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WITH GIZENGA.
AS NOTED ABOVE, HOWEVER, WE SUSPECT HE MAY MAKE ANOTHER
TRY TO ESTABLISH SOME SORT OF CONTACT WITH U.S. OFFICIALS.
WE WOULD WELCOME DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON HOW TO HANDLE SUCH
A CONTINGENCY. FIRESTONE

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